

FREDERICK COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
July 28, 2015
MINUTES

The HRC's July 28, 2015 meeting was called to order at 7:00pm in the 3rd floor conference room at Winchester Hall, 12 E. Church Street, Frederick, Maryland.

I. An Invitation was given to recite the Pledge of Allegiance

II. Members Present: Angela Spencer, Tonya Amedon, David Kaye, Annette Breiling, Lisa Clark, Irene Packer-Halsey, Georgia McCauley, Francisco Alves, Kavonte Duckett, Mari Lee and Gene Stanton

Liaisons present were: Donna Kuzemchak and Jessica Fitzwater

Guest present were: Patrick Grossman, Annie Jones, Lt. Dudley and Michele Bowman

III. Approval of the June 30, 2015 minutes: A motion was made by David Kaye and a 2nd by Lisa Clark to approve the minutes with modifications as discussed. The vote was unanimous.

IV. Comments from the public

Annie Jones the chair for the Commission for Women said she was happy to attend and was looking forward to partnering together on future projects.

Michele Bowman and Lt. Dudley spoke to the group about National Night Out and what to expect. She also shared how National Night Out started.

Angela thanked Patrick Grossman for serving as the Chief.

V. Officers' Reports

a) Executive Committee

The HRC participated in the Mandela Weekend. Angela Spencer passed out some giveaways that they had at the event. She thanked Annette and Tonya for participating in the event planning. She also shared the Event program.

Angela Spencer introduced Gene Stanton as a new commission member.

Angela Spencer went over the National Night Out assignments. She spoke of the importance of getting the surveys completed.

Upcoming policing forum – August 24th was cancelled due to it being the first day of school. Pat will look into dates in October. The format will be a panel of law enforcement, housing and HRC representation.

Racial Equability and personal identity is a topic that will be discussed in the future.

Irene suggested that we go to a retreat center and sponsor a 2 day event because there is so much to discuss.

Jessica said she felt that a retreat with breakout sessions would be a good idea.

Angela recognized and thanked Jessica for her presentation at the public hearing regarding the Repeal of the English Language Ordinance. The vote will be held on August 18th.

Miles was asked to research if Emmitsburg ever had an English Only Ordinance.

October is Human Trafficking Awareness month and the HRC will partner with Heartly House and the Commission for Women for an event that month.

b) Treasurer's Report

We have approximately 4,200.00

VI. Committee Reports

a) Community Relations Committee

Naturalization Ceremony – Event will be held on October 17, at Winchester Hall at 11:00am
Silvia Munoz Moreyra will be asked to be the key note speaker.
David Kaye suggested we get a world map and put it on a board and ask everyone to put a flag from their country on it.

b) Government Relations Committee

Mari Lee reported that the script for the HRC public service announcement will be ready to roll out by the next meeting.

The survey link will be sent to everyone to use on electronic devices.

The format of the sensitivity training may be changed.

Jessica asked about capturing the e-mail addresses for sending information out. It has already been added to the survey.

c) Internal Relations Committee

Tonya reported she is working to come up with a date in September for a meet and greet for youth.

Miles addressed the comments about the by-laws. He said the IRC was the committee that makes changes. He came up with revisions that are appropriate. The next step would be to send to the County Attorney for their review. Angela asked that if anyone had concerns about the document to let Miles by August 4th and on the 11th the Executive Board could make a recommendation.

Georgia was invited to work with the IRC with her changes to the Regulations before they go before the Executive Committee.

Mari Lee reminded everyone to tag all committee members on emails so everyone is appropriately informed.

VII. HRD Director's Report

Miles shared an article about the article Pocomoke City police. The question was raised: could we send statement or how we could be involved outside of our jurisdiction? Miles will look into it.

IX. Announcements and upcoming events

We have 3 openings at this time. Jessica asked if a link or blurb on how to apply for the positions could be sent out so the HRC members could use it for recruitment.

Tuesday, August 4, 2015 – National Night Out – 6:00 – 9:00pm

Locations around the county

Saturday, September 12, 2015 - In the Street Festival – 10:00am – 6:00pm

Downtown Frederick

Sunday, September 27, 2015 – Festival Latino – 11:30 – 5:30

To be held at FCC between the Athletics Center (Fieldhouse) and Linganore Hall (Library)

Saturday, October 24, 2015 - 8th Annual Frederick Community Health Fair - 8 am - 3 pm

To be held at the Eventplex at the Frederick Fairgrounds. Sponsored by the Asian American Center of Frederick and Frederick Memorial Hospital

X. Sharing

Annie Jones shared that the Commission for Women has partnered with the HRC in the past and she looks forward to continuing that partnership in the future.

Patrick Grossman reported that Chief Hargis is starting soon and there will be a welcoming ceremony in late August. He also thanked the HRC for continued support.

Mari Lee asked the members to please interact on the HRC face book page. She is also looking forward to National Night Out next Tuesday

Tonya Amedon said she is looking forward to National Night Out.

Jessica Fitzwater thanked everyone for their support and is looking forward to future legislation.

Francisco Alves is looking forward to National Night Out. He shared he has a position as Job Placement Coordinator at Social Services and starts on the 3rd of August

Georgia McCauley is also looking forward to National Night Out. She thanked Chief Grossman for his service.

Irene Packer-Halsey said our work is more important than ever. She has a new phone number it will be add to our list, her personal e-mail address remains the same. She is looking forward to the community forum.

Annette Breiling thanked the HRC for their past support for the Student Peace Awards and asked for support again this year. She also suggested alternatives to candy for events such as stickers, trinkets and bracelets; they can all be purchased from Oriental Trading Company.

Another additional topic that could be addressed in the future is the rising Heroin epidemic.

Gene Stanton thanked everyone for the wonderful welcome.

Lisa Clark said she had passed around the signup sheet for In The Street and hoped everyone signed up for a shift.

Miles Ward thanked everyone for coming and for having a quorum.

David Kaye said he was sorry he could not make National Night Out because he has another engagement.

Kavonte Duckett reported that on August 30 the investiture of the new president of Frederick Community College, Elizabeth Burmaster will be held at 1:00pm at FCC. He hopes everyone can attend. He will be a speaker. He also asked about having representation from the Sheriff's office at a future meeting. Angela said she is working on making that happen, as well as a jail tour.

Angela Spencer reminded the HRC that this year marks the 25th Anniversary of ADA being signed into law by President George H. W. Bush.

XI. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46pm.